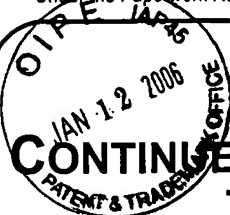


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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/659,469
Filing Date	September 11, 2003
First Named Inventor	Thomas E. SAWYER
Group Art Unit	3713
Examiner Name	Kim T. NGUYEN
Attorney Docket Number	026066-00006

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisions Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 30092 (Aug. 10, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14665 (Mar. 26, 2000); 1255 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the ~~02/13/2006~~ ^{01/12/2006} JADD01 00000073 10659469
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the fee deficiency or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing, our docket number 026066-00006.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) (\$395.00 (Small Entity))
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) (\$510.00 – Three Months (Small Entity))
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check # 439317 in the amount of \$905.00.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Rhonda L. Barton	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,271
Signature)		Date	January 12, 2006

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.